

MARIE ANTOINETTE'S NECKLACE STOLEN AGAIN.



Marie Antoinette

Always the
Center of Intrigue
Since It Caused
the Downfall of
Cardinal De Rohan
It Now Figures
as the Purloined
Property of
Princess Alice
de Bourbon



Cagliostro

"The Trial
of the
Necklace"
Was the
Prologue
to the
French
Revolution



The Humiliation of Cardinal
Rohan.



Madame
du Barry

a lady of the house of Valois, could introduce the subject to Her Majesty. Madame de Lamotte had accounted for her sudden wealth by her influence at court.

Bohmer, the jeweler, had called on her several times in the course of three weeks before she consented to "mix up in this sort of thing." One day she told them that within a few days a "grand seigneur" would be authorized to treat for the necklace.

Three days afterward, Jan. 24, 1785, she presented herself with her husband, at the jeweler's at seven in the morning and announced that the person charged with the negotiation would shortly visit them.

M. and Madame de Lamotte then withdrew, and shortly afterward the Cardinal appeared.

He examined the necklace and said he was authorized to purchase it for another party. The price was fixed at 1,600,000 francs. An arrangement was made whereby 400,000 francs were to be paid every six months until the whole amount was liquidated.

On the 24th of January the Cardinal had concluded the negotiations; on the 31st Madame de Lamotte brought him the Queen's letter accepting terms, Bohmer then delivered the jewels.

The Loss of the Jewels.

The same evening the Cardinal went to Madame de Lamotte with the jewels. He had been there a few moments when the door opened and a voice cried, "From the Queen!" A man appeared and delivered a note to Madame de Lamotte.

The Cardinal recognized him as a member of the Queen's retinue he had seen in the garden that night at Versailles. It was Retaux de Villette. The note he bore requested the jewels. He took them and immediately disappeared.

From that time on the Lamottes had their hands full of diamonds. They gave small ones in payment for bills and sold or pledged others. They excited suspicion, however, and finally the husband took the collection to a London jeweler named Gray, with whom he pawned it for a considerable sum.

Rohan's interest in the necklace was distracted by Cagliostro with his alchemy and miracles.

Under the influence of Madame de Lamotte, trouble was averted away past the time for the first payment.

When things could go no further, she went to the jeweler and told them that Cardinal de Rohan had forged the Queen's signature.

"He is wealthy, however, and you can make him pay," she said.

Then she retired to Bar-sur-Aube. Bohmer, the jeweler, was afraid to accuse the Cardinal, but went direct to the palace, where he presented a history of the whole case as he knew it.

Cagliostro was the first to divine the true state of affairs. He advised Rohan to go to the King and save the situation from becoming public. Rohan lacked the courage to tell the King he had thought he was in correspondence with the Queen.

On August 12 the Cardinal was arrested before the whole court, and the following day Lamotte was taken in her country house.

Eight months elapsed before the trial.

The Famous Trial.

Rohan was acquitted, but deposed as Cardinal. Villette was banished. Count de Lamotte was condemned to the galleys for life. Oliva was outlawed. Cagliostro, who had been held as an accomplice, dressed in wondrous green and gold costume, with hair braided from the top of his head in little plaits, addressed the jury in Italian, Latin, Greek and Arabic, and was acquitted, and the Comtesse de Lamotte was sentenced to be branded in public on her two shoulders with the letter "V" and to be publicly whipped.

This was done, and she was led to the prison of Salpêtrière to be confined for life. She escaped soon after, however, and joined her husband in London, where they lived on the proceeds of the diamonds.

During the famous September massacres of Paris the Lamottes took a prominent part and were borne in triumph on the shoulders of the people. When it became known that Rohan was acquitted, the people were delirious with excitement and enthusiasm. At the palace, at the Bastille, nothing was heard but cries of "Vive le parlement! Vive Mons. le Cardinal!"

He was obliged to show himself several times in the Cagliostro. The court was struck with consternation at the result of the trial; the Queen took it as a grievous insult.

In this unbridled joy of the people, in this triumph to the ridiculous hero of the scene in the garden at Versailles, to the bosom friend of a vulgar charlatan, what bitter decision of, and what depths of hate against the Queen and the Ministers!

Well has it been said that the trial of the necklace was the prologue to the Revolution.

for Paris, but died at Boulogne. Jeanne was abandoned by her mother and went begging around the streets of Paris, crying, "Pity an orphan who is descended by direct line from Henry II. of France." One day while selling flowers she attracted the attention of the Countess of Boulainvilliers, wife of the provost of Paris, who took her home, educated her, and obtained from the King a pension of 600 francs a year for her.

The Beautiful Lamotte.

Eventually she returned to Bar-sur-Aube, her native place. There she met the Count de Lamotte, a handsome man of an honorable family. They were married. To defray the expenses of the marriage she had to mortgage her pension for two years, and Lamotte sold a horse and carriage which he had bought on credit.

Thus provided they went to Paris to seek their fortunes, relying solely upon their family names.

She knocked at every door, but received no assistance. The Queen repeatedly refused to see her.

She obtained audience with Marshal de Richelieu to no effect. She went to Vincennes to introduce herself to Madame du Barry. She wearied the Comptroller General, the Lieutenant of Police, the ladies who basked in the sunshine of the court, to small purpose.

Through her perpetual struggle she grew morose, and her natural talent for intrigue became thoroughly developed. She had become a dangerous character, the more so because she was fascinating.

About 1781 Madame de Lamotte was first introduced to the Cardinal at Savanne by the Countess Boulainvilliers. The Cardinal, interested by her age, her figure, her spirit, and especially by the contrast of her poverty and pedigree, became deeply interested in the fascinating young woman.

Shortly afterward Madame de Lamotte received 2,400 francs from the funds of the grand almoner.

Rohan and Lamotte.

Gratitude and incessant want made her visits to the Cardinal frequent. She flattered him. She played upon his gallantry. He entered into her views, gave her advice and directed her course.

He confided to her the bitterness of his position, the unjust prejudices of Marie Antoinette against him. He revealed how he had admired the coldness and disdain of the Queen, that "woman of proud beauty and seductive grace." He gave her insight into his own strong passion, which was so much the fiercer as it had to be curbed and restrained.

Madame de Lamotte from now on began to propagate reports of her relations with the Queen, how the Queen had read her petitions at last and promised her royal favor. Then of how the Queen had received her in the royal boudoir. The Cardinal, too dissipated to calculate, too amorous to distrust, too vain to imagine himself deceived, listened and believed.

He went so far as to write an elaborate apology to the Queen, which was entrusted to Madame de Lamotte.

Some days after the latter brought a reply, written on a small sheet of paper covered with blue vignettes, in which the Queen was made to say: "I have read your letter; I am charmed to find you no longer guilty. I cannot yet grant you the audience you desire; when circumstances shall permit, I will advise you. Be discreet."

Letters and answers succeeded one another; and during the months of May, June and July, 1784, a correspondence took place between the Cardinal and Madame de Lamotte—a correspondence which included many pretended letters from the Queen.

The little letters gradually became less and less cold, till all the passion which fermented in the heart of the

Cardinal was stirred. But the waiting drove him to despair. He must have a secret interview. At first his fair correspondent refused, but it was finally arranged that they should meet on the evening of August 11, in the park of Versailles.

That night at 10 p. m. Madame de Lamotte, one Retaux de Villette, and a Mlle. d'Oliva, who greatly resembled the Queen, descended into the garden.

Villette and Madame de Lamotte lagged behind. Oliva, alone and awkward, remained in the shadow. Soon afterward the Cardinal appeared, disguised and followed by a confidant, Baron de Planta. He was conducted to Oliva by Madame de Lamotte. The Prince bowed as Oliva presented him with a rose, saying, "You know what that means." The Cardinal was about to make reply when footsteps were heard. "Make haste, away!" said Madame de Lamotte, "Madame de Contesse d'Artois is coming!"

Two hours later, at the Belle Image Inn, the Cardinal's party supped gaily at his expense.

The interview was decisive for him. From this time he reflected not. He had seen with his own eyes. He became the third instrument of a woman who led him captive by every passion of his heart.

By August Madame de Lamotte demanded 50,000 francs for a poor family which the Queen was interested in. The Cardinal borrowed the sum from a Jew and sent it to Lamotte by Baron Planta.

In November the Queen needed 100,000 francs. This was also raised by the Cardinal.

Madame de Lamotte thus passed from poverty to opulence. She was so impatient to show her wealth that she and her husband made a trip to Bar-sur-Aube to humiliate by her luxury those who had witnessed her wretched childhood.

And Then—the Necklace.

The jewelers of the Crown, Bohmer and Bassange, had collected at great expense the finest diamonds that could be obtained and had made a necklace of them. The necklace was valued at 1,800,000 francs (\$560,000). It was intended for Madame du Barry.

She not caring for it, the jewelers showed it to the King. He was so pleased with it that he wished the Queen to have it. But she declined, saying, "We have more need of a vessel than a necklace at present."

Eventually one Achet suggested to Bohmer that the Countess de Lamotte,

Some Manuscript Romances

Famous Authors
Whose Stories Experienced Queer
Vicissitudes.

A QUARTER of a million dollars is said to have been offered by a wealthy American for the recently discovered manuscript of Milton's "Paradise Lost," the discovery of which calls to mind numerous strange stories of manuscripts.

When Nathaniel Hawthorne died it was said that the MS. of his unfinished "Dolliver Romance" had been buried with him. As a matter of fact, it was placed on his coffin at the funeral, but subsequently it was published in the Atlantic Monthly.

Dante Gabriel Rossetti, the leader of the pre-Raphaelite school in art, possessed sufficient sentiment to bury

some of his best poems in the grave with his wife, who inspired them, in Highgate Cemetery in London. There they lay for seven years. Then Dante, to prove to Morris and Swinburne that he, too, had written love lyrics of lasting value, obtained permission to open the coffin, recovered the MS. and published it in 1870 under the title of "Poems."

Tennyson and Coventry Patmore once lodged with an ill-tempered spinster. They left suddenly, and shortly after their departure Tennyson remembered that he had left the MS. of "In Memoriam" in the sitting-room closet. Tennyson felt inclined to leave it there rather than face the spinster again, but Patmore volunteered to rescue it. He slipped back into the house, but was seen by the landlady and retreated under fire with the valuable MS.

Tennyson lost the MS. of "Poems, Chiefly Lyrical," out of his overcoat pocket, and had to rewrite the poems from memory.

Longfellow once stopped at a wayside

Hawthorne, Dante,
Longfellow and
Tennyson's Odd
Experiences

inn to jot down an ode which he had composed during his walk; he was suddenly called away and left the ode on the table where he had written it. He did not think of it again until he saw it in the poet's corner of the local paper over the name of the inn-keeper.

In all these cases the authors had only themselves to blame for the mishaps, but rage alone could have been the emotion of Carlyle when he sat down to rewrite from memory the first volume of his "French Revolution," which had been burned through the carelessness of another. Dickens and Butler-Lytton had similar sad experiences.

THE Queen's necklace seems fated to be for all time the center of intrigue. Now comes the fact that it has been stolen, pawned and recovered again. The necklace, now the property of Princess Alice de Bourbon, is much smaller than in its original form, as many of the stones sold by Count de Lamotte were never recovered.

The Princess recently sent the necklace to a jeweler for repairs. Despas, a Belgian engineer, by means of false credentials, obtained the necklace and pawned it in a Paris pawnshop.

He obtained an advance of \$6,500 on the necklace, which is valued at \$160,000.

Princess Alice de Bourbon is the youngest daughter of Don Carlos. She recently obtained a divorce from Prince Frederick of Schoenburg-Waldenburg. It is now reported that she will go to the seat of war as a Red Cross nurse with the Russians.

LOUIS DE ROHAN, Cardinal, Grand Almoner, Bishop of Strasbourg, Prince of the Empire and member of the French Academy, was permeated as little as any man in France with the spirit of his position. Gallant, magnificent, of noble figure and graceful bearing, he pleased and surprised by his inconsistencies.

Under his agreeable exterior, however, raged a wild ambition and fiercest passion without principle or curb to restrain them. It is related that at Vienna, on the anniversary of the "Fete Dieu," he threw into disorder with his hunting retinue a religious procession which he met on the way. He was recalled by Maria Theresa, and fell into disgrace. Louis XVI. could not tolerate him and Marie Antoinette felt an aversion for him that she was at no pains to disguise.

Cardinal Rohan had begun to despair of ever emerging from this mortifying disgrace, when he met Cagliostro and Madame de Lamotte.

At this period Cagliostro was one of the most notable characters of France. He pretended to be the high priest of

a kind of natural religion, whose devotees were to be "pure as the rays of the sun." They were to have neither wives nor light pleasures, nor a fortune of more than 50,000 francs (\$10,000).

The Great Cagliostro.

Everything about him was bizarre and mysterious respecting his fortune, birth, manner of living and his speeches.

His success was prodigious. Fanaticism reached so high that not only were his portrait and that of his wife to be seen on fans, rings, snuff boxes and medals, but his bust was sculptured in marble, cast in bronze and placed in the palaces of the nobles of the day.

The success of Cagliostro was a triumph for the Cardinal. He had introduced him and spoke of the great enchanter with respectful and eloquent admiration.

Madame de Lamotte was descended, by Henry, Baron of St. Remy, from the royal house of Valois. It is not known by what means the family sunk to its final degradation. It is said that her father, abandoning his youngest child, took his wife and Jeanne, the future Madame de Lamotte, and started on foot